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FLOOR DEBATE

May 31, 2001

LB 215, 817-822

hearing and, by rule, can be and I hereby move that they be withdrawn. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Debate on the motion to withdraw? Senator Kristensen. Question is, shall LB 817, LB 818, LB 819, LB 820, LB 821 and LB 822 be withdrawn? Those in favor aye; those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 41 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to withdraw LB 817-822.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The motion is agreed to. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next item is consideration of gubernatorial vetoes. Senator Chambers would move that LB 215 become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm not going to rehash everything that I had said on this bill and I hope others will not, but I can't control anybody else. If you read the Governor's veto message, it boils down to what his personal view of this subject is. He says, in the letter, that he has taken a position against what this bill would do in terms of protecting people from discrimination based on sexual orientation. That is the underlying basis for his letter. You can read it for yourself. I wanted you to have it on your desk when I made this motion. What I'm going to do is read a few words from an article I handed out late...earlier that comes from the World-Herald, May 25th, under the headline: "Creighton Recognizes Gay-Straight Alliance". Creighton University will officially recognize a student group called the Gay Straight Alliance because the school must stand against discrimination and prejudice. Creighton's President, the Reverend John Schlegel sent a letter Thursday to faculty and staff of the Roman Catholic school announcing his decision. Quote: Having this student organization affects us all, Schlegel wrote. It says we stand together against all forms of discrimination and prejudice. It says that we are eager to embrace all our students. Farther down in the article, and you